

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In the pending Office Action mailed September 19, 2007, claims 7, 14, and 19-21 were objected to as dependent on a rejected base claim, but were indicated as allowable if rewritten into independent form. The indication of allowable subject matter is appreciated. These three claims have been rewritten, so that their respective base claims have been incorporated.¹ It is respectfully submitted that claims 7, 14, and 19-21 are in condition for allowance. The respective base claims comprising claim 1, claim 8, and claim 15 have been canceled. Claim 18 was previously canceled. The remaining dependent claims, comprising claims 2-6, 9-13, and 16 and 17, are amended as needed to change their dependency so as to depend from a claim indicated as allowable.


Thus, claims 2-7, 9-14, 16, 17, and 19-21 are pending. Further examination and reconsideration of the application are requested.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 858-350-6100.

Respectfully submitted,


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¹ Claim 7 originally depended from claim 1, claim 14 originally depended from claim 8, and claims 19 and 21 originally depended from claim 15. Claim 20 originally depended from claim 19, which becomes allowable with the amendment of claim 19.